

In the Claims

Please amend Claims 1, 7, 17, 20 and 28. Amendments to the claims are indicated in the attached "Marked Up Version of Amendments" (pages i - ii)

F1
1. (Twice amended) A retroviral vector which undergoes promoter conversion comprising in 5' to 3' order,

- SUB 617
- a) a 5' long terminal repeat region of the structure U3-R-U5;
 - b) one or more sequences selected from coding and non-coding sequences, said sequences being inserted into the body of the vector; and
 - c) a 3' long terminal repeat region comprising a partially deleted U3 region wherein in said partially deleted U3 region a polylinker sequence containing a heterologous promoter which is not derived from the retrovirus or a related retrovirus upon which the retroviral vector is based is inserted, said promoter regulating, after infection of a target cell, expression of said one or more sequences selected from coding and non-coding sequences.

F2
7. (Twice amended) The retroviral vector according to Claim 31, wherein said promoter is selected from the group consisting of Whey Acidic Protein specific regulatory elements and promoters, Mouse Mammary Tumor Virus specific regulatory elements and promoters, β -lactoglobulin and casein specific regulatory elements and promoters, pancreas specific regulatory elements and promoters, lymphocyte specific regulatory elements and promoters, Mouse Mammary Tumor Virus specific regulatory elements and promoters conferring responsiveness to glucocorticoid hormones or directing expression to the mammary gland, and combinations thereof.

SUB 627

F3
17. (Twice amended) A retroviral vector kit comprising:

SUB 637
a retroviral vector which undergoes promoter conversion comprising in 5' to 3' order, a) a 5' long terminal repeat region of the structure U3-R-U5; b) one or more sequences

selected from coding and non-coding sequences, said sequences being inserted into the body of the vector; and c) a 3' long terminal repeat region comprising a partially deleted U3 region wherein in said partially deleted U3 region a polylinker sequence containing a heterologous promoter is inserted, wherein said promoter is not derived from the retrovirus or a related retrovirus upon which the retroviral vector is based and said promoter regulating, after infection of a target cell, expression of said one or more sequences selected from coding and non-coding sequences; and

a packaging cell line harboring at least one retroviral or recombinant retroviral construct coding for proteins required for said retroviral vector to be packaged.

20. (Twice amended) A method for introducing homologous or heterologous nucleotide sequences into cells in an animal or cultured cells, said method comprising infecting the cells with recombinant retroviruses produced by the producer cell line of Claim 28.

28. (Twice amended) A producer cell line producing a retroviral particle, the producer cell comprising a retroviral vector and a DNA construct coding for proteins required for the retroviral vector to be packaged, said retroviral vector comprising in 5' to 3' order, a) a 5' long terminal repeat region of the structure U3-R-U5; b) one or more sequences selected from coding and non-coding sequences, said sequences being inserted into the body of the vector; and c) a 3' long terminal repeat region comprising a partially deleted U3 region wherein in said partially deleted U3 region a polylinker sequence containing a heterologous promoter is inserted, wherein said promoter is not derived from the retrovirus or a related retrovirus upon which the retroviral vector is based and said promoter regulating, after infection of a target cell, expression of said one or more sequences selected from coding and non-coding sequences.